
MEASURE K

PLACER CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT SPECIAL TAX

Shall Placer Consolidated Fire Protection District be allowed to impose a Special Tax to ensure qualified personnel respond to fire and life safety emergencies and provide advanced life support services through paramedics on its staffed engine companies?

YES ____

NO ____

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS BY PLACER COUNTY COUNSEL

The Placer Consolidated Fire Protection District proposes to impose a special tax to provide sufficient revenues to employ firefighter paramedics, increase firefighter wages and furnish, operate and maintain advanced life support services for the residents in the district (Resolution No. 362).

The district is proposing to tax various classifications of parcels as detailed in the resolution referenced above. The tax proposed to be levied for each parcel during any fiscal year would be \$55.00 for a single residence or mobile home, \$84.00 for duplexes, \$128.00 for triplexes, \$170.00 for fourplexes and \$48.00 per unit for an apartment complex with five or more units. Additional rates are proposed for institutional, commercial and industrial properties, detailed in the above-referenced resolution.

The district proposes that the maximum amounts of this tax would remain unchanged until June 1, 2007, and thereafter may be adjusted annually, at the discretion of the Board of Directors of the District for the ensuing fiscal

year, using a designated Consumer Price Index published by the federal government.

This increased special tax would be an annual tax upon parcels of property commencing with the 2005-2006 tax year. The special tax would be collected in the same manner as the County collects ad valorem taxes.

A "YES" vote is a vote in favor of the Placer Consolidated Fire Protection District special tax.

A "NO" vote is a vote against imposing the Placer Consolidated Fire Protection District special tax.

Measure K must receive approval by two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast by the voters voting upon the measure to be considered approved by the voters.

Anthony J. La Bouff
County Counsel

By: Sabrina M. Thompson
Deputy County Counsel

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE K

Providing essential emergency and non-emergency services has been the mission of the Placer Consolidated Fire Protection District since its creation in 1984 by the consolidation of Ophir and Rock Creek fire districts.

Last year the District responded to 2532 calls for its 21,000 citizens. Of those, 73% were responses to medical emergencies. There is one ambulance within the District that provides paramedic coverage. When multiple calls occur, the next ambulance must come from Auburn, Colfax, or as far away as Rocklin.

In 1989 the voters approved a \$48 per year fire service fee. This fee has not, and cannot be changed since the voters approved it. Once again the District needs your help to continue, and to improve, the service provided to you the citizens we serve.

As you may be aware, increases in worker's compensation and health care have been enormous. Also, due to circumstances beyond our control this year the District will lose more than \$200,000 of your tax dollars to the State and County. The District is faced with providing a reduced level of service and can't afford to hire and retain the qualified people the citizens need and deserve.

The District is seeking your approval of an additional special tax of \$55 per home, \$48 per apartment, \$36 per mobile home space, and \$.05 per square foot for commercial space.

By approving this measure you will provide a funding source to provide advanced life support services through firefighter paramedics, and ensure adequately trained and qualified personnel.

Passage of this measure will allow us to provide paramedics on all three engines on a 24 hour basis and provide reasonable salaries for our firefighters. Please join your neighbors, friends, firefighters and the Board of Directors in casting a resounding "YES" vote.

James W. Holmes, President Placer Consolidated
Harriet F. White, Placer County Supervisor, District 3
Edward N. Bonner, Placer County Sheriff
Bruce Kranz, Placer County Supervisor-Elect, District 5
Monroe C. DeJarnette, President, Auburn Chamber of Commerce

<p>NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE K WAS SUBMITTED</p>

RESOLUTION NO. 362

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL TAX TO FINANCE FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDIC RESPONSE IN THE PLACER CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Be it resolved by the Board of directors of the Placer Consolidated Fire Protection District (hereinafter referred to as the "District") as follows:

Section 1: **AUTHORIZATION:** This Resolution and the special tax authorized herein is adopted pursuant to Article 16 of the Government Code.

Section 2: **CURRENT FUNDING:** Fire and life safety services in the Placer Consolidated Fire Protection District are being funded by an allocation of property tax, fire suppression assessment revenues, and non-property tax revenues.

Section 3: **DETERMINATION OF NECESSITY:** The level of fire and life safety services which can be provided by existing revenue sources is no longer at a level deemed appropriate by the District nor at a level the District would like to provide to its residents. District personnel and equipment responded to 2532 emergency calls in 2003 with 73% of those being medical emergency requests. The District is currently unable to compete with larger cities and districts for recruitment and retention of qualified personnel but somehow must in order to provide quality services.

Section 4: **PURPOSE OF SPECIAL TAX:** The express purpose for which this special tax is levied is to establish a source of funds to hire, furnish, operate, and maintain firefighter paramedics and advanced life support services and to increase firefighter wages to improve recruitment and retention of qualified personnel.

Section 5: **LIMITATION UPON EXPENDING SPECIAL TAX PROCEEDS:** Any funds collected from the special tax authorized by this Resolution shall be expended only for such fire and life safety services within the Placer Consolidated Fire Protection District.

Section 6: **DEFINITIONS:** As used in this Resolution the following words or phrases shall be construed as follows:

- (a) "Board" shall mean the Board of Directors of Placer Consolidated Fire Protection District;
- (b) "Special Tax" shall mean the special tax authorized by and imposed pursuant to this Resolution;
- (c) "District" shall mean the Placer Consolidated Fire Protection District;
- (d) "Parcel of Real Property" means a separate parcel of real property having a separate assessor's parcel number as shown on the local secured tax rolls of the County of Placer, or an assessment of a classified structural property on the unsecured tax rolls of the County of Placer, or an assessment made by the State Board of Equalization;

- (e) "Residential " shall mean a parcel of real property which, according to the records of the County Assessor, is classified for residences;
- (f) "Commercial " shall mean a parcel of real property which, according to the records of the Placer County Assessor, is classified for a business providing sales and/or services including any resale and/or wholesale operations;
- (g) "Industrial " shall mean a parcel of real property which, according to the records of the Placer County Assessor, is classified for the manufacturing of goods, the processing of raw materials, and the warehousing by the manufacturer of finished goods and raw materials;
- (h) "Agricultural " shall mean a parcel of property which, according to the records of the Placer County Assessor, is classified for the production of crops and/or the raising of livestock;
- (i) "Institutional " shall mean a parcel of real property which, according to the records of the Placer County Assessor, is classified for charitable, educational, or religious uses by organizations such as churches, hospitals, private schools, non-profit and fraternal organizations;

Section 7: **LEVY:** A special tax to raise revenue to fund fire and life safety services is hereby levied upon real property within the District.

Section 8: **SPECIAL TAX RATE:** The rate and method for the special tax authorized hereby shall be as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Rate Per Parcel /Unit</u>
<u>Residential:</u>	
General	\$ 55.00 per unit
Duplex	\$ 84.00
Condominium	\$ 55.00 per unit
Single Mobile Homesite Estate Home	\$ 55.00 per unit
Mountain Home	\$ 55.00 per unit
Triplex	\$128.00
Fourplex	\$170.00
Apartment Complex with five or more units	\$ 48.00 per unit
<u>Agricultural:</u>	
Parcel-5 acres or less	\$ 0
Parcel-6 to 100 acres	0
Parcel-in excess of 100 acres	0
<u>Institutional:</u>	\$ 150.00

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**MEASURE K RESOLUTION
CONTINUED**

	Minimum Fee	Rate Per Square Foot (Building)
<u>Commerical:</u>		
General	\$ 55.00	\$.05
Retail Store	55.00	.05
Restaurant	55.00	.05
Shopping Center	55.00	.05
Supermarket	55.00	.05
Hotel/Motel	55.00	\$ 36.00 per guest room
Service station	55.00	.05
Mobile Home Park	55.00	\$ 36.00 per space
	Minimum Fee	Rate Per Square Foot (Building)
<u>Industrial:</u>		
General	\$ 55.00	\$.05
Light		
Manufacturing	55.00	.05
Cotton Gin	55.00	.05
Cannery	55.00	.05
Winery	55.00	.05
Heavy		
Manufacturing	55.00	.05
Packing House	55.00	.05
Cold Storage	55.00	.05
Dehydration Plant	55.00	.05
Saw Mill	55.00	.05

Section 9: CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ADJUSTMENT:

The amount of charge specified in section 8 above shall remain unchanged until June 1st, 2007. After June 1st, 2007 the amount of charge specified in section 8 above may be adjusted annually for the ensuing fiscal year to reflect the Consumer Price Index prepared by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, using the weighted average of Consumer Price Indexes (All Urban Consumers) for the State of California (San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose), with the base year being June 1, 2006. The Board shall be responsible for making the necessary computations each year prior to June 15th and advising the Placer County Auditor-Controller what the amount of charge is to be for the next year as a result of the foregoing computations.

In the event that said Bureau shall cease to publish said index figure, then any similar index by any other branch or department of the United States Government shall be used in its place

Section 10. SPECIAL TAX LIMITATIONS: The special tax established by this Resolution shall not be imposed upon a federal, state or local agency. All unimproved agricultural parcels within an area classified as a state responsibility area by the State Board of Forestry for the prevention and suppression of fires pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 4126, et seq., and all agricultural parcels with only barns, stalls, or other agricultural out-buildings, shall be exempt from the special tax established by this Resolution.

Section 11. COLLECTION/COMPUTATIONS: The county shall collect the special tax adopted herein, if approved by popular vote, beginning the 2005/2006 fiscal year in the same manner and subject to the same penalty, as other charges and taxes fixed and collected by the county. The special tax shall remain in effect ad infinitum, or until the law no longer allows, or until such time as the Board of Directors of said District rescinds this special tax.

The records of the Placer County Assessor as of June 15th of each year shall determine for the next fiscal year whether a residential, commercial, industrial, recreational, institutional or other structure exists (and the size thereof) for the purpose of the charge pursuant to this Resolution.

Square footage for the purpose of calculating amounts to be charged for commercial and industrial parcels shall be determined by the records of the Placer County Assessor. In the event Placer County Assessor has no square footage information on a commercial or industrial parcel that has improvements, the District reserves the right to measure the improvements to determine square footage used for the purpose of calculations. In the event of a discrepancy, the Board of Directors of this District shall make the final determination.

Section 12. CORRECTIONS, CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: The Board of Directors may order the special tax levied herein on any particular parcel of real property to be corrected, canceled or refunded in order to effect the provisions of this Resolution.

Section 13. ELECTION: An election is hereby called and ordered for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters within the District the following proposition:

"Shall Placer Consolidated Fire Protection District be allowed to impose a Special Tax to ensure qualified personnel respond to fire and life safety emergencies and provide advanced life support services through paramedics on its staffed engine companies?"

Section 14. SEVERABILITY: In the event that any provision of this Resolution shall at any time be declared invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, or by governmental regulations or decree, such decision shall not invalidate the entire Resolution, it being the expressed intention of the Board of Directors that all other provisions not declared invalid shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 15. ADOPTION: This Resolution shall take effect on the 14th day of June, 2004.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Placer Consolidated Fire Protection District of Placer County, State of California, on this 14th day of June, 2004 at a meeting of said Board duly called and held on said day by the following vote:

ATTEST:

AYES:	4
NOES:	0
ABSENT:	1